

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-13 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended and claims 9-13 are added. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

The Abstract was objected to. The Abstract has been amended in accordance with the suggestion of the Office Action. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over *Montenieri et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,343,718). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, that the support member has a hollow cylindrical portion for supporting the pusher and that the pusher is supported by the support member before use.

*Montenieri et al.* does not disclose or suggest the support member recited in claim 1. The proximal end cap (82) of *Montenieri et al.* noted in the Office Action is a substantially disc-like member (col. 4, line 43). Such a planar cap (82) does not have a hollow cylindrical portion for supporting the dasher rod (15), nor does it support the dasher rod (15) before use.

Claims 2-13 recite additional features of the invention and are allowable for the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein.

For example *Montenieri et al.* do not disclose or suggest a movement preventative member as recited in claim 8. The axially central planar surface (58) is not removably provided on a base end side of a sealing film.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over *Montenieri et al.* are respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all the claims are allowable and that the entire application is in condition for allowance.

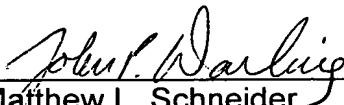
Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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